

Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIE-00 AF-08

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 L-03 SSO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4247

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NESCO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNESCO

SUBJ: UNESCO 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE: SOVIET INITIATIVE
ON CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

REF: STATE 278076

1. ON EVENING OF NOV 15 COMMISSION II, FOLLOWING INTER-VENTIONS OF 27 COUNTRIES LASTING OVER TWO HOURS, ADOPTED FRG PROPOSAL TO DEFER FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF 19 C/DR, 111 TO 20TH GC BY VOTE OF 38 FOR (US, WEO'S, CHILE, ARGENTINA, URUGUAY, JAPAN), 19 AGAINST (SOV-EE'S) AND 11 ABSTENTIONS.

2. THE FOLLOWING SALIENT POINTS EMERGED FROM DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM. FIRST, THE EC 9 PROVED (AS A RESULT OF A PREARRANGED SCENARIO COORDINATED BY THE USDEL) TO BE AN EFFECTIVE MECHANISM FOR COUNTERING AND BLUNTING SOVIET PROPAGANDISTIC ATTEMPTS IN UNESCO. OF THE TEN WEO'S WHICH SPOKE, EACH TABLED THREE DIFFERENT ORAL AMENDMENTS AMOUNTING TO 30 AMENDMENTS, THUS MAKING IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH ANY CONSENSUS IN COMMISSION II ON THE DOCUMENT. SECOND, THE
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USSR, DESPITE PROFESSIONS TO THE CONTRARY, PROVED ITSELF

UNWILLING TO ACCEPT ANY AMENDMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SOVIET DEL REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY OF THE POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL AND, IN RESPONSE TO US DEL INTERVENTION, ADDED THREE AMENDMENTS OF THEIR OWN WHICH INDICATED THAT EVEN SPONSORS WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THEIR OWN TEXT. THIRD, THE DISCUSSIONS REVEALED DETERMINED EFFORTS OF PRC DELEGATION TO COUNTER SOVIET EFFORTS TO USE UNESCO AS PROPAGANDA FORUM AS EVIDENCED BY PRC 15 MINUTE BLISTERING ATTACK ON USSR ACCUSING LATTER OF "WAGING WAR AGAINST EUROPE" AND REFUSING TO DISCUSS CONTENT OF DOCUMENT. FINALLY, DISCUSSIONS REVEALED UNWILLINGNESS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO BECOME EMBROILED IN ESSENTIALLY AN EAST-WEST ISSUE AS STATED BY NIGERIAN DEL IN EXPLANATION OF ABSTENTION. THE FEW LDC'S THAT SPOKE TO ISSUE (MAINLY LA'S AND SOME ASIANS) STRONGLY CRITICIZED DOCUMENT 19 C/DR.111.

3. UPON FURTHER REFLECTION, US DEL BELIEVES THAT MAIN OBJECTIVE OF SOVIET DEL IN INTRODUCING THIS ITEM WAS TO CATALOGUE OBJECTIONS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES WITH VIEW TO AMENDING PRESENT DRAFT FOR RESUBMISSION TO 20TH GC IN HOPE THAT IT WILL BE ADOPTED.

MARSHALL

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